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## AROMATIC CLEANSER KIT

## 5 FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The current invention is directed generally to an aromatic cleanser kit, and more particularly to a kit which allows a user to customize the color and scent associated with a multipurpose household cleanser.

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## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The positive benefits of aromatherapy have long been known in the incense and other environmental aromatic arts. In most cases it is recommended that the type of aroma be matched with the mood a user is attempting to set. As a result incense, perfumes, fragrant oils, etc. usually come in a wide variety of aromas. More recently manufacturers have begun to scent other home products, such as household cleansers, to cover-up the often unpleasant aroma of the active ingredients of the cleanser such as ammonia or vinegar and provide a more pleasant environment for the user.

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For example, scented or fragrant cleansers have been used in homes for many years. Typically, these cleaning products are mixed with fragrances that are considered "refreshing", such as, pine or floral aromas. However, because the cleanser is pre-scented, the user has no ability to modify the scent of the product, such as, for example to reflect a change in seasons. Moreover, many of the current home cleaning products are toxic. Such products would clearly be unsuitable for any operation that would require the consumer to add scent or color to the product at home because of the risk that the consumer would inadvertently come into contact with the toxic product.

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Accordingly, a need exists for a preferably non-toxic  
cleanser product and associated fragrance kit that would allow  
5 for the modification of the aroma of the cleanser by the user.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is directed to an aroma cleanser  
kit, and more specifically to a multi-component kit that  
10 allows an end-use consumer to select from a multiplicity of  
fragrances for addition to a common unscented cleanser.

In one embodiment, the cleanser/aroma kit of the current  
invention would contain a concentrated cleanser product, a  
15 prelabeled dispenser providing instructions on diluting the  
concentrated cleanser for use, and a selection of dissolvable  
fragrance materials.

In another embodiment, the fragrance materials  
effervescent dissolvable tablets, which when added to the  
20 cleanser homogeneously disperse throughout the diluted  
cleanser.

In yet another embodiment, the fragrance materials are  
concentrated scent solutions, powders or crystals.

25 In still another embodiment, the fragrance materials have  
a different color associated with each of the unique aromas to  
provide a visual indicator of the aroma to be dispensed.

In still yet another embodiment, either or both of the  
fragrance material and the concentrated cleanser are non-  
30 toxic.

In still yet another embodiment, the invention is  
directed to a method of imbuing a cleanser with a fragrance  
using the cleanser/fragrance kit of the current invention.

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## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

5 These and other features and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following detailed description, appended claims, and accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a somewhat diagrammatic representation of the components of an exemplary cleanser/aroma kit in accordance with one embodiment of the current invention.

10 Figures 2a to 2e show somewhat diagrammatic representations of the steps of an exemplary method of adding fragrance to a cleanser using the cleanser/aroma kit in accordance with one embodiment of the current invention.

15 Figure 3 is a flowchart of the steps of an exemplary method of adding fragrance to a cleanser using the cleanser/aroma kit in accordance with one embodiment of the current invention.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

20 The present invention is directed to an aromatic or aroma cleanser kit (the kit), and more specifically to a multi-component aromatic cleanser kit that allows an end-use consumer to select from a multiplicity of fragrances for addition to a common unscented cleanser.

25 Figure 1 shows a schematic diagram of the various components of one exemplary kit **10**. As shown, in one embodiment the kit contains a quantity of concentrated cleanser product **12** in a storage container **14**, a separate dispenser bottle **16** for diluting the concentrated cleanser product **12**, and a selection of dissolvable fragrance materials **18**.

30 As further shown in Figure 1, the kit may also include instructions **19** on diluting the concentrated cleanser and  
35 introducing the fragrance material to the diluted product.

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Although these instructions are preprinted on the dispenser bottle in the embodiment shown in Figure 1, it should be understood that instructions could be provided on a separate page, on the dispenser bottle, in multiple places on the components, or in any other form suitable for communicating the directions to a user.

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Moreover, although the cleanser is a concentrate in the embodiment shown in Figure 1, it should be understood that the cleanser could be provided in a pre-diluted ready to use form. In such an embodiment, either a single dispenser bottle could be provided, or a separate bottle with diluted cleanser could be provided to refill the dispenser when empty.

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It should be further understood that the specific number of bottles and the form of the dispenser are not critical to the invention as long as a quantity of cleanser and a selection of fragrance tablets capable of dissolving and dispersing in the cleanser are provided. Indeed, any number of bottles or types of dispensers may be included in a kit in accordance with the present invention. Suitable dispensers might include, for example, trigger-type spray bottles, squeeze-type squirt bottles, aerosol cans, etc.

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Any suitable type of cleanser may be included in the kit of the current invention such that the cleanser in a diluted, or ready-to-use form is capable of dissolving and dispersing the fragrance material, such as, for example, household cleansers, glass cleansers, automotive cleanser, carpet cleansers, disinfectants, dish detergents, clothes detergents, wood cleansers, floor cleansers, etc. In one preferred embodiment, the cleanser is a non-toxic multi-purpose household cleanser.

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Likewise, any fragrance material capable of dissolving and dispersing in the selected cleanser may be included in the kit of the current invention. In one preferred embodiment,

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the fragrance material is an effervescent tablet comprising a bicarbonate material molded together with a suitable fragrance. In such an embodiment the tablet effervesces when placed into contact with a liquid. The bubbles generated thereby serve to release and mix the fragrance with the cleanser thereby dissolving and dispersing the fragrance without the need for any agitating action by the user.

Although one embodiment of the fragrance material is described above, it should be understood that fragrance material may come in any form which allows for the delivery of an appropriate concentration of the fragrance to the cleanser product. For example, the fragrance material may come as liquid solutions, dissolvable capsules, crystals, powders, gels, etc. Likewise, any number and type of suitable aromas may be used with the kit of the present invention. In one preferred embodiment the fragrance materials included in the kit are non-toxic.

In one embodiment, the fragrance material further contains an associated color such that each provided aroma can be identified visually. Alternatively, the color may be provided separately in any of the above mentioned forms for addition to the cleanser and fragrance. Regardless of the form, such a color additive should be generally non-staining and preferably non-toxic.

Figures 2a to 2e and 3 provide pictorial and flowchart diagrams of the operation of the kit **20** in accordance with the present invention.

As shown in Figure 2a, first the concentrate cleanser **22** is transferred from the concentrate container **24** to the dispenser container **26**. To ensure an appropriate concentration of the cleanser is provided, the dispenser bottle may have a fill line **28** marked on the side of the bottle. In Figure 2b, the concentrate cleanser **22** in the

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dispenser container **26** is then diluted with an appropriate dilutant **29**, such as, for example, water. Alternatively, if the cleanser is in a ready-to-use state, the dilution step can be skipped and the cleanser directly added to fill the dispenser container **26**.

Once the diluted cleanser **22'** is prepared, the fragrance material **30** is added to the dispenser bottle **26**. As shown in Figure 2c, where the fragrance material is in the form of an effervescent tablet **30** this step entails dropping the tablet into the dispenser bottle **26**. In a case where the fragrance material is in the form of an effervescent tablet, the fragrance material **30** must be given time to effervesce **32** and mix with the cleanser to form the aromatic cleanser prior to sealing the bottle, as shown in Figure 2d. This waiting period is necessary to ensure that the effervescing fragrance material has sufficiently dispersed into the cleanser. It should be understood that this step is not necessary when using fragrance materials without this effervescent quality, such as, for example, liquid fragrances, crystals, powders, etc.

Finally, as shown in Figure 2e, once the gas has been released from the tablet the dispenser bottle **26** can be capped **34** and the aromatic cleanser **36** used. Optionally, the capped bottle may be agitated to ensure thorough dispersion of the fragrance within the cleanser. In a preferred embodiment, the fragrance material may further contain a dye colorant that provides a visual measure of the degree of mixing between the fragrance material and cleanser.

Although specific embodiments are disclosed herein, it is expected that persons skilled in the art can and will design alternative aromatic cleanser kits and methods of using such kits that are within the scope of the following description either literally or under the Doctrine of Equivalents.